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МЕЖДУНАРОДНАЯ АМНИСТИЯ
منظمة العفو الدولية
國際特赦組織

URGENT ACTION

EXTERNAL **AI Index: ASA 21/84/96**

UA 291/96 **Arbitrary arrest / Fear of torture** **13 December 1996**

EAST TIMOR

Rodolfo Sarmento (26)

Anselmo do Carmo (33)
Bernardino Fonseca (24)
Tomas dos Santos (33)
Julio da Costa (21)
Americo da Costa (25)

Amnesty International has just received an unconfirmed report about an East Timorese who was arrested on 15 November 1996 and is believed to be still in detention where he is at risk from ill-treatment or torture.

Rodolfo Sarmento is reported to have been arrested by the military in the village of Ililae, Lautem district, in the east of East Timor. According to the report, he was beaten and accused of being a member of the clandestine movement which opposes Indonesia's presence in East Timor. He was then arrested and taken to Baucau were he is believed to be still held.

Another five people - Anselmo do Carmo, Bernardino Fonseca, Tomas dos Santos, Julio da Costa and Americo da Costa - are also reported to have been arrested in the district of Lautem on 15 November. It is not known whether or not they have since been released, but if still held Amnesty International believes that they are also at risk of ill-treatment or torture.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

East Timorese taken into military and police custody continue to be at risk of torture and ill-treatment, particularly during interrogation. Detainees are denied access to legal counsel and their families which increases this risk. Safeguards against the use of torture and other violations of detainee's rights, provided for under Indonesia's Code of Criminal Procedures, are often ignored by the military and the police.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/telexes/faxes/express/airmail letters in Bahasa Indonesia, English or your own language:
- calling on the authorities to provide information about the whereabouts of Rodolfo Sarmento, Anselmo do Carmo, Bernardino Fonseca, Tomas dos Santos, Julio da Costa and Americo da Costa;
- urging that, if Rodolfo Sarmento and the other five detainees are still detained, they are not subjected to ill-treatment or torture and that they are given access to independent legal advisors and to their families;
- calling on the authorities to clarify the charges against any of the six detainees who are still be held and to release them if they are being held for their peaceful political activities.

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APPEALS TO:

Military Commander Region IX/Udayana
(covers Bali, Lombok, Nusa Tenggara and East Timor)
Maj. Gen. Rivai
Pangdam IX/Udayana
Markas Besar KODAM IX Udayana
Denpasar, Bali, Indonesia
Telegrams: Pangdam IX, Udayana, Denpasar, Bali, Indonesia
Salutation: Dear Major General Rivai

Governor of East Timor
Abilio Jose Osario Soares
Gubernur KDH Tk. I Timor Timur
Jl Infante De Hendrique
Dili, East Timor, Indonesia
Telegrams: Gubernur KDH Tk.1 Timor Timur Dili, East Timo
Salutation: Dear Governor Soares

COPIES TO:

National Commission for Human Rights
Alex Refialy S.H.
Jalan Dr Antonio De Carvalho
Dili, East Timor, Indonesia

and to diplomatic representatives of Indonesia accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 22 January 1997.